ALABAMA BAPTIST HISTORICAL SOCIETY

MINUTES

—OF THE—

Eleventh Annual Session

—OF THE—

NEW PROVIDENCE BAPTIST ASSOCIATION,

—HELD WITH—

MT. GILEAD CHURCH,

Covington Co., Ala, October 20, 21, and 22, 1899.

OFFICERS:

ELDER W. A. CUMBIE, MODERATOR, Brantley, Ala.
M. W. RUSHTON, CLERK Luverne, Ala.

The next session will be held with Mt. Ida Church, Crenshaw County, beginning on Friday before the Fourth Sunday in October, 1900.

Montgomery, Ala.:
ALABAMA BAPTIST PRINT.
1899.

ORDAINED AND LICENSED MINISTERS.

ORDAINED:

W. A. CUMBIE,	BRANTLEY, ALA.
C. L. EILAND,	BULLOCK, ALA.
I. N. LANGSTON,	LUVERNE, ALA.
R. F. HAWKINS,	LUVERNE, ALA.
R. H. FOLMAR,	LUVERNE, ALA.
F. A. GARRETT,	AIKEN, ALA.
WYATT LOGAN,	GOSHEN, ALA.

LICENTIATES:

D. M. EILAND,	BULLOCK, ALA.
J. H. NIXON,	GOSHEN, ALA.
C. L. GARRETT,	AIKEN, ALA.

The following Ministers attended the Association:

W. A. CUMBIE, C. L. EILAND, I. N. LANGSTON,
D. M. EILAND, C. L. GARRETT, J. P. GRAHAM,
L. B. COHRON.

ORDER OF BUSINESS:

1. Appoint Committee to Read Letters.
2. Names of Delegates Enrolled.
3. Election of Officers.
4. Appoint Committee on Preaching.
5. Admission of New Churches.
6. Recognize Messengers from Corresponding Bodies.
7. Return Correspondence.
8. Invitation to Ministers of the Gospel present, not accredited to this Body, to seats with us.
9. Appoint Committees to Report during the Session.
10. Report of Committees Appointed at Last Session.
11. Appoint Committees to Report at Next Session.
12. Report of Committees, Present Session.
13. Appoint Time and Place of Next Meeting.
14. Treasurer's Report.
15. Disbursement of Funds on Hand.

Motions, Resolutions and Miscellaneous Business are in order at any time when there is nothing immediately before the body, and it is willing to entertain them.

MINUTES.

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 20TH.

The Eleventh Annual Session of the New Providence Association met with Mt. Gilead Baptist Church, in Covington county, on Friday, the 20th day of October, 1899.

Bro. J. H. Nixon, who had been appointed to preach the introductory sermon, being absent, Bro. J. P Graham, of the Pea River Association, preached a most excellent discourse from 1st Cor. 12:5 to a good-sized congregation for Friday, after which a real nice dinner was spread and everybody invited to partake of it.

At 1:30 p. m. Bro. W. A. Cumbie conducted devotional exercises and then called for letters from the churches, which were read by M. W. Rushton and Dr. T. Q. Ray and the names of the messengers enrolled, as follows:

Bethel Church—W. M. Green, S. C. Everage, Isaiah Eiland, W. L. Davis, S. L. Bryan.

Brantley—J. M. Beall, W. M. Thrasher, D. E. Burks.

Friendship—C. L. Eiland, W. A. Cumbie, G. B. Christian, Henry Wilson, C. C. Eiland, T. Whit. Cosby.

Goshen—J. H. Nixon, F. C. Horn, J. B. Bryan, L. R. Rouse, C. H. Johnson.

Luverne—M. W. Rushton, P. J. Thrower, I. N. Langston, T. W. Shows, B. F. Wilson, J. M. Folmar.

Mt. Zion—J. M. Mount, D. M. Eiland, T. E. Meacham, J. L. Eiland, A. W. Rogers.

Mt. Ida—B. M. Williamson, H. J. Sanders.

Mt. Gilead—T. R. Meadors, J. R. Jordan, W. L. Stinson.

New Mt. Pleasant—J. D. Hattaway, Wm. Haralson, Wm. Martin.

New Harmony—W. H. Nix, R. F. Hawkins, Walter Barrington, Frank Hawkins, W. H. Taylor, E. Strickland.

Pleasant Home—J. M. Whatley, C. L. Garrett, E. Y. Cowart,

Salem—S. B. Ray, Dr. T. Q. Ray.

Spring Hill—W. S. Mathews, W. J. Norman, D. Z. McCormick. H. C. Loard, J. T. Robertson, W. T. Loard.

The Association was then organized by re-electing Bro. W A. Cumbie Moderator, M. W. Rushton Clerk and H. C. Loard Treasurer.

Petitionary letters were called for, but none were presented.

Correspondents were called by the Moderator, and Bro. J. P. Graham reported from Pea River Association.

The following committees were appointed by the Moderator:

On Devotional Exercises—W. H. Nix, with the Pastor and messengers of Mt. Gilead Church.

Committee on Books and Periodicals—C. L. Eiland, L. R. Rouss and G. B. Christian.

Committee on Education—I. N. Langston, T. R. Meadors and J. M. Mount.

Committee on Nominations—J. R. Jordan, D. M. Eiland and J. T. Peterson.

Committee on Missions—H. C. Loard, Thad. Hough and W. L. Davis.

Committee on Sabbath Schools—M. W. Rushton, J. M. Beall and Dr. T. Q. Ray.

Committee on Finance—W. L. Stinson, S. B. Ray and C. L. Garrett.

Bro. I. N. Langston announced that he was representing and would be glad to take subscriptions for the *Alabama Baptist*.

Bro. H. C. Loard announced that he was representing the *Western Recorder*, and would cheerfully receive subscribers for it.

On motion of Bro. I. N. Langston the Moderator appointed the following special committee on Institute Work in the New Providence Association: I. N. Langston, C. L. Eiland and T. R. Meaders.

Bro. M. W. Rushton made a motion that our Articles of Faith be published in the minutes.

Bro. J. R. Jordan suggested that he offered a resolution at our last Association requiring the Articles of Faith to be printed in the minutes every year, and which had to lie over, under our Constitution, until this Association to be acted upon. Bro. Rushton withdrew his motion, and on motion the resolution was taken up and amended so as to require the Articles of Faith to be printed in the minutes next year instead of every year, and adopted as amended.

The Moderator appointed the following Committee on Temperance: D. M. Eiland, B. F. Williamson and S. C. Everage.

The following Committee on Orphan's Home was appointed: I. N. Langston, J. M. Whatley and W. M. Harrison.

The Committee on Devotional Exercises made the following report:

Devotional exercises Saturday morning at 8 o'clock, and preaching at 11 o'clock, by Rev. I. N. Langston.

Respectfully submitted,
W. H. Nix, Chairman.

Bro. W. L. Davis offered the following resolution and moved its adoption, and that a copy of it be sent to our Congressman, which resolution and motion were adopted. The resolution is as follows:

Petition of New Providence Association to memorialize the Congress of the United States to unseat Mr. Brigham H. Roberts, an avowed polygamist, lately elected to Congress from the State of Utah.

WHEREAS, Mr. Brigham H. Roberts, an avowed polygamist, has lately been elected to the United States Congress from the State of Utah; and

WHEREAS, The polygamists have emissaries all over the Southern States engaged in disseminating their pernicious literature among Baptist and other denominations, proselyting wherever they go; therefore be it

Resolved. By the New Providence Association, that it does hereby petition the Congress of the United States to use all fair and reasonable means to unseat said Brigham H. Roberts.

The Committee on Entertainment reported that the following brethren and friends would gladly receive company: J. R. Jordan, W. L. Stinson, W. S. F. Goosby, Mrs. W. O. Sheath, G. W. Eiland, T. R. Meaders, W. H. Urquhart, C. A. Stringfellow, Aaron Kirkland, J. B. Carr, R. T. Bryan and W. H. Smith.

The Association adjourned until Saturday morning at 8 o'clock. Benediction by the Moderator.

SATURDAY MORNING, OCTOBER 21ST.

The Association met pursuant to adjournment

After singing a song, the Moderator read the 12th chapter of Romans, and Bro. D. M. Eiland led in prayer.

Correspondents were called for and Bro. L. B. Cohron reported from the Conecuh Association.

On motion the calling of the roll of messengers was deferred until after dinner.

Committee on Books and Periodicals reported. Report read, and after being spoken to by C. L. Eiland, I. N. Langston, L. B. Cohron, M. W. Rushton and D. M. Eiland, it was adopted. Said report is as follows:

Your Committee on Books and Periodicals makes the following report:

The Bible should be the standard in every home, but it is a lamentable fact that we as a people do not study it as we should. We therefore recommend that Baptists especially study this good Baptist book more. We notice also that our people are deficient in the matter of reading religious papers. They do not keep posted on our denominational enterprises, and therefore do not sustain them as they ought. We recommend that our members first of all take and read the *Alabama Baptist*, in order that they may keep up with our work in the State. We recommend the Sabbath school literature published by our Southern Board at Nashville, Tenn., for use in our Sabbath school work. It is our opinion that we are laggards in our church work because we do not read good books and papers and thereby keep abreast with the age in which we live.

Respectfully submitted,

C. L. EILAND, Chairman.

Bro. A. B. Clark reported from Zion Association, and Bro. E. Schofield from Salem Association.

Committee on Education reported. Report read and spoken to by I. N. Langston, M. W. Rushton, C. L. Eiland, W. A. Cumbie, Dr. T. Q. Ray, L. B. Cohron, and adopted. The following is the report:

We, your Committee on Education, beg leave to report the following:

The word educate is derived from two Latin words, *e* meaning out and *duco* meaning to draw out, and as we apply it, it means to draw out the powers of mind and heart and develop the mental and spiritual man. The mind is not a bag or sack to be filled with a mass of useless material, but it is capable of great expansion and wonderful grasp of thought when properly developed. While we urge the need of schools, they are not all that go to help in securing an education; we can learn from many sources: we can be instructed by a study of the fields and flowers, and no man who gazes at the star-gemmed skies can doubt the existence of God. We have not reached the fullness of the stature of a perfect man until we have educated both head and heart. We would urge that our young people make an earnest effort to get an education in some of our best schools. Baptists should patronize the Howard College for boys and young men, at East Lake, Ala., and the Judson, at Marion, for young ladies. Let the parents and children of New Providence Association awaken to the importance of education, and especially Christian education.

Respectfully submitted,

I. N. Langston, Chairman.

The hour of 11 o'clock having arrived, Bro. I. N. Langston preached an instructive, able and eloquent sermon to a large and appreciative audience from Exodus 4:2, "What is that in Thine Hand?"

The Association took a recess until 1:30 p. m. During the recess a most magnificent repast was spread on a long table made for the purpose, and everyone most cheerfully partook of the same.

The Association met pursuant to adjournment. Devotional exercises were conducted by the Moderator.

Committee on Nominations reported. Report read and adopted. The report is as follows:

We, your Committee on Nominations, ask leave to submit the following:

We recommend that this body meet with Mt. Ida Baptist Church, on Friday before the fourth Sunday in October, 1900.

Delegates to the State Convention, to be held at Gadsden, Ala., November 8th, 1899: M. W. Rushton and W. A. Cumbie.

Delegate to the Southern Baptist Convention, to be held at Hot Springs, Ark., next May: I. N. Langston.

Executive Committee: J. M. Mount, G. B. Christian, H. C. Loard, T. R. Meadors and Joe Eiland.

Bro. R. N. Hawkins will preach the introductory sermon at our next Association.

Respectfully submitted,

J. R. Jordan, Chairman.

Committee on Temperance reported. Report read, and after being spoken to by D. M. Eiland, L. B. Cohron, W. A. Cumbie, A. B. Clark, J. P. Graham, M. W. Rushton and I. N. Langston, it was adopted. The following is the report:

We, your Committee on Temperance, beg leave to report the following:

We believe temperance is on the increase among our people, and we earnestly recommend to all classes, and especially to our beloved sisters, the inculcation of the true principles of temperance in the training up of the rising generation, that their minds may be infused with the importance and the true essential elements of temperance, so that the very highest order of temperate living may be realized in the near future.

Respectfully submitted,

D. M. Eiland, Chairman.

Committee on Institute Work reported. Report read, and was spoken to by I. N. Langston, D. M. Eiland, W. A. Cumbie, C. L. Eiland, and then adopted. The report is as follows:

We, your Committee on Institute Work, beg leave to report the following:

The Institute Board is a new board created at the Baptist State Convention, at East Lake, Ala., in 1897. Bro. G. S. Anderson has the Institute work in charge, and is making good progress and doing great good. We recommend that Institute work be made a permanent feature of the work of this Association, and that the churches contribute to the support of this work. This work is especially intended for the hundreds of ministers in Alabama who cannot attend the schools and colleges. It is the opinion of your committee that the Institute work is one of the most worthy of the enterprises fostered by our denomination.

Respectfully submitted,

I. N. Langston, Chairman.

On motion of Dr. T. Q. Ray, a collection was taken for Institute work, and $3.00 was contributed.

Committee on Orphan's Home reported. Report read, and spoken to by I. N. Langston and adopted. The report is as follows:

Our Orphan's Home is located at Evergreen, Ala., and under the direction of Rev. J. W. Stewart and Sister Jennie Hardy. It is a model home for the orphan children of our State. They are taken there and fed, clothed and educated. It is entirely dependent on the contributions of the Baptist churches in the State, and your committee recommends it as one of the most worthy enterprises that we foster.

Brethren, let us give of our means to support the dear little children who are without parents and homes.

Respectfully submitted,

I. N. Langston, Chairman.

On motion a collection was taken, and $10.00 was raised for the Orphan's Home.

Committee on Devotional Exercises made the following report:

Bro. C. L. Garrett will preach to-night at 7:30. Sunday morning, at 11 o'clock, Bro. W. A. Cumbie will preach at the Baptist Church, and Bro. L. B. Cohron at the Methodist Church.

W. H. Nix, Chairman.

Bro. C. L. Eiland moved that the motion which was adopted yesterday ordering the Articles of Faith printed in the minutes next year, be reconsidered and amended so as to require them to be printed in the minutes of this year, which motion prevailed.

Bro. W. L. Davis made a motion that the time of holding our next Association be changed from Friday to Wednesday before the fourth Sunday in October, 1900, which motion, after being discussed by W. L. Davis, I. N. Langston, S. B. Ray, W. H. Nix and W. A. Cumbie, was lost.

On motion the Association adjourned until 8 o'clock Sunday morning.

Bro. C. L. Garrett, who was recently licensed by his church to preach the unsearchable riches of Christ, occupied the pulpit Saturday night, and preached a most excellent sermon. He is a promising young man and preacher, and we are proud of him.

SUNDAY MORNING, OCTOBER 22D.

Association met pursuant to adjournment. After singing several soul-inspiring songs, the Moderator read the 1st chapter of John, and Bro. L. B. Cohron led in prayer.

Correspondents were called for, and Bro. W. M. Odom reported from Zion Association, and Bro. A. J. Hudmon from Pea River Association.

On motion the roll of messengers was called and the absentees noted, as follows: W. M. Green, J. L. Bryan, Henry Wilson, P. J. Thrower, T. W. Shows, B. F. Wilson, J. M. Holmar, W. M. Thrasher, D. E. Burks, F. C. Horn, J. B. Bryan, L. R. Rouse, C. H. Johnson, J. L. Nichols, J. D. Hattaway, R. F. Hawkins, Walter Barrington, W. L. Mathews, W. J. Norman, D. Y. McCormick, J. T. Robinson.

On motion, the reading of the Articles of Faith was dispensed with.

Bro. I. N. Langston offered the following resolution, which was adopted:

Resolved, That the messengers and visitors in attendance upon this session of the Association tender their thanks and hearty appreciation for the liberal Christian hospitality extended to them.

Respectfully submitted,

I. N. Langston.

Bro. J. M. Mount offered the following resolution, which was adopted:

Resolved, That we advise the churches of this body to discontinue the practice of inviting visiting brethren and sisters to give the right hand of Church fellowship upon the reception of members, as it is unbaptistic. Respectfully submitted,

J. M. MOUNT.

On motion of Bro. C. L. Eiland, Bro. I. N. Langston was requested to write up this session of the Association and send it to the *Alabama Baptist* for publication.

Bro. C. L. Eiland moved that the Clerk have four hundred copies of the minutes printed. Carried.

Committee on Sabbath Schools reported. Report read, and after being spoken to by M. W. Rushton and J. M. Whatley, it was adopted. The report is as follows:

The Committee on Sabbath Schools beg leave to report the following:

That the Sabbath school, teaching God's Word, is an important factor in civilizing, Christianizing and saving souls, there can be no doubt. Jesus said: "Go ye therefore and teach all nations the gospel, teaching them to observe all things whatsoever I have commanded you. He that believeth the gospel and is baptized shall be saved." Therefore it is the duty of all, and should be the pleasure of all who have enlisted under the crimson banner of Jesus Christ, to be earnestly engaged in this great and important work, but we regret exceedingly to have to report that a great many seem indifferent and unconcerned about it.

We are glad, however, to report that our churches are becoming more aroused to a sense of their duty in regard to this part of the church's work, as will appear from a perusal of the letters sent up by the churches. We earnestly recommend that not only the churches, but that each member thereof, put more time and more zeal in this great work than hitherto, and not rest contented until every child within the reach of a Sabbath school is enrolled as a member. Respectfully submitted,

M. W. RUSHTON, Chairman.

Committee on Missions reported. The report being read, Bro. C. L. Eiland moved that the report be amended by striking out the word Thibet, and pending its adoption it was discussed by H. C. Loard, C. L. Garrett, I. N. Langston, L. B. Cohron. It was adopted as amended. The report is as follows:

REPORT ON MISSIONS.

Your Committee on Missions ask leave to report the following:

Since the combination of State, Home and Foreign Missions, it requires more labor of your committee to get a suitable report.

In State Mission work the reports are good, and no doubt but what there has been more work done in the State than last year.

Home Missions include Cuba and Porto Rico, and there is as much being done in these islands as can be done, considering the unsettled condition of affairs there at this time.

The Foreign field is vast. It appears from reading Baptist papers

that all parts of the world are open to the gospel, though it will take a mint of money and many men and a long time to evangelize the world. Respectfully submitted,

H. C. Loard, Chairman.

The hour of 11 having arrived, Bro. W. A. Cnmbie read the first chapter of 1st Corinthians, the congregation sang "Jesus, Thou Art the Sinner's Friend," M. W. Rushton led in prayer, and Bro. Cumbie preached—as he always does—an able, learned and impressive sermon from Matthew 6:19, 20, to a large and appreciative audience.

At the same hour, Bro. L. B. Cohron occupied the pulpit at the Methodist Church, and preached a telling discourse to a good congregation.

A collection was taken, and $8.42 was raised for missions.

An adjournment was taken until 1:30 p. m. During the recess a long table in the beautiful grove was spread with a variety of rich and choice viands, and everyone was cordially invited to partake of them The good ladies of this community certainly know how to entertain the people on such occasions, and for which they deserve much praise.

At the appointed time the Association was reconvened. Devotional exercises were conducted by the Moderator.

REPORT OF THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE.

The following report of the Executive Committee was read and adopted:

Your committee ask leave to submit the following:

For this Associational year we have held five Fifth Sunday meetings. One, at Goshen, in January, which was thinly attended on account of the snow on the ground. The last of April we met with Brantley Church, and had a good meeting. The Fifth Sunday meeting in July, at Mt. Zion, was a success. We had but a few dollars in our treasury, and we supplemented that with about ten dollars raised at the Brantley meeting, and we turned it over to Bro. Ashley B. Metcalf, to help defray his expenses as a delegate to the Southern Baptist Convention; but he did not go, and your committee believe that he (Metcalf) ought to be required to refund the money to this body, for the simple reason that the money was advanced to him for that express purpose.

If there has been anything done in the way of mission work in the bounds of our body, your committee is not aware of it. There are two points that your committee think it advisable that there should be mission work done—one north of Rutledge, the other southwest of Bullock. Respectfully submitted,

W. L. Davis, Chairman.

REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON FINANCE.

Report read and adopted.

We, your committee, ask leave to make the following report:

The funds sent up by the churches and the collections taken during this session of the Association, and which came into our hands and the purposes for which they were designated, are as follows:

For Minutes	$19 46
For Home Missions	15 95
For Home Missions, voucher of W. B. Crumpton	2 50
For Foreign Missions	17 70
For Orphan's Home	11 15
For Institute Work	3 00
For Associational Purposes	7 76
Total	$77 52

The above amount we have turned over to the Treasurer.

Respectfully submitted,

W. L. Stinson, Chairman.

The Treasurer's Report was read and adopted, which report is as follows:

The Treasurer begs leave to report the following:

I have received from the Executive Committee the following amounts, for the following purposes, to-wit:

For Minutes	$19 46
For Home Missions	15 95
For Home Missions, voucher of W. B. Crumpton	2 50
For Foreign Missions	17 70
For Orphan's Home	11 95
For Institute Work	3 00
For Associational Purposes	7 76
For Associational Purposes, collected on Sunday	8 43
Total	$85 95

On motion of Bro. C. L. Eiland, the Treasurer was instructed to remit the funds on hand to the different enterprises designated as soon as possible.

Bro. G. B. Christian offered the following resolution, which was adopted:

Resolved, That each church in the Association take up a collection before each Fifth Sunday meeting, and that the amount received be turned over to the Executive Committee to be used at home for destitute places within the bounds of this Association.

Bro. M. W. Rushton offered the following resolution, which was adopted:

Resolved, That each church in the Association take up a collection from time to time and send to Rev. R. H. Folmar, to aid him in defraying his expenses while in the Seminary at Louisville, Ky.

Bro. C. L. Eiland offered the following resolution, which was adopted:

Resolved, That it is the sense of this body that our people should buy and read the Webb-Cumbie debate, now for sale by Bro. W. A. Cumbie.

On motion of Bro. W. L. Davis, the Clerk was instructed to write to Bro. Ashley B. Metcalf to refund the money which the Executive Committee advanced to him to help defray his expenses as a delegate from this Association to the Southern Baptist Convention, held at Louisville, Ky., last May.

On motion, the minutes were turned over to the Clerk without having them read, to correct and have printed.

Adjourned, to meet with Mt. Ida Church, Crenshaw county, on Friday before the fourth Sunday in October next.

M. W. RUSHTON, Clerk. W. A. CUMBIE, Moderator.

RULES OF DECORUM.

1. The Asseiation shall be opened with prayer.

2. The officers of this body shall be chosen by the suffrages of the members present.

3. The Moderator shall be considered a judge of order, and shall have a right to call to order at any time.

4. Any member dissatisfied with his decision, may appeal to the Association, on the same day, but at no other time.

5. But one person shall speak at a time, who shall rise to his feet, and, on obtaining permission, may proceed.

6. The Moderator, when addressed by a member for permission to speak, shall signify the same by naming the person, or otherwise.

7. No member shall be interrupted while speaking, except he depart from the subject under debate,or use words of personal reflection.

8. Every motion, made and seconded, shall come under the consideration of the Association, and must be decided, or withdrawn by the person who made it, before another motion will be in order, except to adjourn.

9. When a question is taken up, after allowing time for debate, the Moderator shall put the question fairly to the Association for decision.

10. Any member wishing to retire, shall first obtain permission from the Moderator.

11. No member shall speak more than twice on the same proposition, without permission of the Association, nor more than once until every member wishing to speak shall have spoken; nor shall any proposition be made to close a subject until the debate has been carried through.

12. The appellation of Brother shall be used in the Association by members in their address one to another.

13. The roll of names of delegates shall be called on Sunday morning, and no names shall appear on the minutes who do not answer, unless leave of absence be granted, or satisfactory excuse be rendered.

14. No member shall be tolerated in any practice which shall tend to interrupt public speaking.

15. The Moderator shall be entitled to the same privilege of speaking as any other member, provided he shall appoint some other member to fill his chair while he is speaking; but he shall not vote on any question, unless the Association be equally divided.

16. Any member violating these rules shall be reproved by the Moderator, at discretion, but only on the breach made.

17. These rules may be altered or amended by a majority of the members present, as provided for in the Constitution.

STATISTICAL TABLE--1899.

CHURCHES.	PASTORS.	CLERKS.	POST OFFICES.	Sunday of Meeting.	Increased by Baptism.	Increased by Letter.	Increased by Restoration.	Dismissed by Letter.	Excluded.	Decreas'd by Death	Present Number.	No. Last Reported.	Minutes.	Orphan's Home.	Ministerial Education.	Missions.	Value Church Property.
Bethel	J. M. Loflin	W. L. Davis	Glenwo'd	2	7	10			1	2	81	66	$2 50			$10 65	
Brantley	A. B. Metcalf	R. M. Wilder	Brantley	2		3		17	1	1	57	73	75			7 00	
Friendship	W. A. Cumbie	G. B. Christian	Elizabeth	3	3	5		2		6	79	79	2 00			4 30	
Goshen	G. W. Harrison	J. H. Nixon	Goshen		1	2		5			59	57	1 00			1 40	
Luverne	I. N. Langston	W. C. Sanders	Luverne	1 & 3	8	3		6			58	53	1 50		$35 40	2 40	$1 000
Mt. Ida	C. L. Eiland		Mt. Ida		1			2	1		39	41					
Mt. Gilead	C. L. Eiland	W. L. Stinson	Chester	4	5	4			1		41	33	1 50			2 00	
Mt. Pisgah																	
Mt. Zion	R. F. Hawkins	J. L. Eiland	Brantley	1	5	4	2	5	3	1	74	72	2 15			*3 30	40
New Mt. Pleasant	N. B. Flemming	J. D. Hattaway	Halton				6	4			20	30	50				
New Harmony	R. F. Hawkins	M. G. Williams	Vidette	2	2	9	1	3	3	1	91	83	2 00			4 55	
Pleasant Home	E. Kolb	T. J. Cowart	Johnson	4	23	9	5	1		1	87	58	1 50			2 00	
Salem	W. A. Cumbie	S. B. Ray	Dozier							1	12	13	1 00				100
Spring Hill	R. F. Hawkins	I. L. Mills, Sr.	Vidette		7	4		8	3		64	64	1 50			3 60	
Searight																	

* Associational Missions.

SUNDAY SCHOOLS.

CHURCHES.	SUPERINTENDENTS.	SECRETARIES.	No. Joined Church.	No. of T'chers.	Number Enrolled.	Average Attendance
Bethel	W. M. Green	Jas. Holladay				40
Brantley	R. M. Wilder			6	108	40
Friendship						
Goshen						
Luverne	M. W. Rushton	Jack Walker				
Mt. Ida	J. L. Nichols	O. M. Lanier			22	15
Mt. Gilead	T. R. Meadors		2	5	78	30
Mt. Pisgah						
Mt. Zion	Y. M. Capps		3	4	40	25
New Mt. Pleasant					59	40
New Harmony	W. H. Nix			1		
Pleasant Home	C. L. Garrett					
Salem	S. B. Ray			4	40	30
Spring Hill						
Searight						

ARTICLES OF FAITH.

ARTICLE 1. *Of the Scriptures.*—We believe the Holy Bible was written by men divinely inspired, and is a perfect treasure of heavenly instruction: that it has God for its Author, salvation for its end, and truth, without any mixture of error, for its matter; that it reveals the principles by which God will judge us, and therefore is, and shall remain to the end of the world, the true centre of Christian union, and the supreme standard by which all human conduct, creeds and opinions shall be tried.

ART. 2. *Of the True God.*—That there is one, and only one, true and living God, whose name is Jehovah, the Maker and Supreme Ruler of heaven and earth; inexpressibly glorious in holiness, worthy of all confidence and love; revealed under the personal and relative distinction of the Father, the Son and the Holy Ghost, equal in every divine perfection, and executing distinct but harmonious offices in the great work of redemption.

ART. 3. *Of the Fall of Man.*—That man was created in a state of holiness, under the law of his Maker, but by voluntary transgression fell from that holy state, in consequence of which all mankind are now sinners, not by constraint but choice, being by nature utterly void of that holiness required by the law of God, wholly given to the gratification of the world, of Satan, and their own sinful passions, and, therefore, under just condemnation to eternal ruin, without defense and excuse.

ART. 4. *Of the Way of Salvation.*—That the salvation of sinners is wholly of grace, through the mediatorial offices of the Son of God, who took on Him our nature, yet without sin; honored the law by His personal obedience, and made atonement for our sins by His death; being risen from the dead, He is now enthroned in heaven, and uniting in His wonderful person the tenderest sympathies with divine perfection, is every way qualified to be a suitable, a compassionate and all-sufficient Savior.

ART. 5. *Of Justification.*—That the great gospel blessing, which Christ of His fulness bestows on such as believe in Him, is justification; that justification consists in the pardon of sin and promise of eternal life, not on principles of righteousness which we have done, but solely through His redemption and righteousness, that brings us into a state of most blessed peace and favor with God, and secures every other blessing needful for time and eternity.

ART. 6. *Of the Freeness of Salvation.*—That the blessings of salvation are made free to all by the gospel; that it is the immediate duty of all to accept them by a cordial and obedient faith, and that nothing prevents the salvation of the greatest sinner on earth, except his own voluntary refusal to submit to the Lord Jesus Christ, which refusal will subject him to an aggravated condemnation.

ART. 7. *Of Grace in Regeneration.*—That in order to be saved we must be regenerated, or born again; that regeneration consists in giving a holy disposition to the mind, and is effected in a manner above our comprehension or calculation, by the power of the Holy Spirit, so as to secure our voluntary obedience to the gospel, and that its proper evidence is found in the holy fruit we bring forth to the glory of God.

ART. 8. *Of God's Purpose of Grace.*—That election is the gracious purpose of God, according to which He regenerates, sanctifies and saves sinners; that being perfectly consistent with the free agency of man, it comprehends all the means in connection with the end:

that it is a most glorious display of God's sovereign goodness, being infinitely wise, holy and unchangeable; that it utterly excludes boasting, and promotes humility, prayer, praise, trust in God and active imitation of His free mercy; that it encourages the use of means in the highest degree; that it is ascertained by its effects in all who believe the gospel; is the foundation of Christian assurance; and that, to ascertain it with regard to ourselves, demands and deserves our utmost diligence.

ART. 9. *Of the Preservation of the Saints.*—That such only are real believers as endure to the end; that their persevering attachment to Christ is the great mark which distinguishes them from superficial professors; that a special Providence watches over their welfare, and they are kept by the power of God through faith unto salvation.

ART. 10. *Harmony of the Law and Gospel.*—That the law of God is the eternal, unchangeable rule of His moral government; that it is holy, just and good; that the inability which the Scriptures ascribe to fallen men to fulfill its precepts arises entirely from their love of sin; to deliver them from which, and to restore them, through a Mediator, to unfeigned obedience to the holy law, is one great end of the gospel, and the means of grace connected with the establishment of a visible church.

ART. 11. *Of a Gospel Church.*—That a visible Church of Christ is a congregation of baptized believers, associated by covenant in the faith and fellowship of the gospel; observing the ordinances of Christ; governed by His laws, and exercising the gifts, rights and privileges invested in them by His words; that its only proper officers are bishops or pastors and deacons, whose qualifications, claims and duties are defined in the Epistles to Timothy and Titus.

ART. 12. *Of Baptism and the Lord's Supper.*—That Christian baptism is the immersion of a believer in water, in the name of the Father, Son and Spirit, to show forth, in a solemn and beautiful emblem, our faith in a crucified and risen Savior, with its purifying power; that it is a prerequisite to the privileges of a church relation, and to the Lord's Supper, in which the members of the church, by the use of bread and wine, are to commemorate together the dying love of Christ, preceded always by solemn self-examination.

ART. 13. *Of the Christian Sabbath.*—That the first day of the week is the Lord's day, or Christian Sabbath, and is to be kept sacred to religious purposes, by abstaining from all secular labor and recreation; by the devout observance of all the means of grace, both private and public, and by preparation for that rest which remaineth for the people of God.

ART. 14. *Of Civil Government.*—That civil government is of divine appointment, for the interest and good order of human society, and that magistrates are to be prayed for, conscientiously honored and obeyed, except in things opposed to the will of our Lord Jesus Christ, who is the only Lord of the conscience and Prince of the kings of the earth.

ART. 15. *Of the Righteous and the Wicked.*—That there is a radical difference between the righteous and the wicked; that such only as through faith are justified in the name of the Lord Jesus, and sanctified by the Spirit of God, are truly righteous in His esteem, while all such as continue in impenitence and unbelief are in His sight wicked, and under the curse, and this distinction holds among men both in and after death.

ART. 16. *Of the World to Come.*—That the end of this world is approaching; that at the last day Christ will descend from heaven, and raise the dead from the grave to final retribution; that a solemn separation will then take place; that the wicked will be adjudged to endless punishment and the righteous to endless joy; and that this judgment will fix forever the final state of men in heaven or hell, on principles of righteous-